

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A washing apparatus comprising:
 - a First Region, to which a wash material is supplied,
 - a Second Region, in which the wash material is washed,
 - a Third Region, in which the wash material is melted, and
 - a flow resistance provided between the Second Region and the Third Region,wherein the Second Region is at least partially in the form of a column and wherein this column has a diameter of at least about 300 mm or greater.
2. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the flow resistance is arranged non-rotatable about a central longitudinal axis of the Second Region.
3. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein there is provided between the First Region and the Second Region a solid/liquid separation apparatus having a filtrate offtake line.
4. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the solid/liquid separation apparatus is in the form of a filter in a wall adjacent to the Second Region.
5. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the wall is arranged at an angle α in the range from 0 to less than about 90°, relative to the central longitudinal axis.
6. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the flow resistance has at least one opening.

7. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the flow resistance is characterized by a relative free cross-sectional area in the range from 0 to less than about 100 %, relative to the total area of the flow resistance.

8. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the free cross-sectional area is variable.

9. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the flow resistance can be tempered.

10. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein a conveying means free of pulsation is provided upstream of the First Region or at least partially in the First Region.

11. (Previously Presented) The washing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the conveying means free of pulsation has a conveyor spiral.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A purification apparatus comprising a crystal-producer that is connected in a crystal-carrying way with the First Region of a washing apparatus comprising:

- a First Region, to which a wash material is supplied,
- a Second Region, in which the wash material is washed,
- a Third Region, in which the wash material is melted, and
- a flow resistance provided between the Second Region and the Third Region.

14. (Previously Presented) The purification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein a dwell-time container is provided between the crystal-producer and the washing apparatus.

15. (Previously Presented) A synthesis device comprising a synthesis installation and downstream a purification apparatus as defined in claim 13.

16. (Previously Presented) The synthesis device according to claim 15, wherein the synthesis installation is a gaseous phase oxidation synthesis unit.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of purifying a wash material, wherein the wash material is supplied by way of the First Region of a washing apparatus defined in claim 1 and a target product is obtained.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the wash material contains at least about 20 % of the target product by weight.

19. (Previously Presented) A product selected from the group consisting of food, polymers, fuels, lubricants, cleaning agents, dyes and pharmaceuticals comprising target product made by the method of claim 17.

20. (Currently Amended) A product selected from the group consisting of food, monomers, fuels, solvents, waste-water treatment, and isomer separation prepared by a purification apparatus of claim 13.

21. (New) The washing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the wash material is a crystal suspension comprising acrylic acid wherein the concentration of the acrylic acid in the crystals is at least about 90% by weight.

22. (New) The washing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the crystal suspension consists of crystals or a liquid phase.

23. (New) The purification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the wash material is a crystal suspension comprising acrylic acid wherein the concentration of the acrylic acid in the crystals is at least about 90% by weight.

24. (New) The purification apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the crystal suspension consists of crystals or a liquid phase.